

5 I claim:

1. A pill or capsule delivery device for ejecting a pill or capsule into an animal's mouth while at the same time injecting a quantity of water into the mouth, comprising:

a dispensing head for releasably holding a pill or capsule; and

10 a syringe component including a main barrel for containing a dose of water, a thumb-operable plunger insertable into one end of said main barrel for ejecting said water, a tube in fluid communication with the other end of said main barrel and defined by at least one water release hole, a piston slidably mounted in the tube, and a push-rod engaged by said piston and movable therewith to protrude into said dispensing head;

15 whereupon thumb-operation of the plunger, said water urges the piston and push-rod forward such that said push-rod ejects the pill/capsule from the dispensing head into the animal's mouth, and when the piston clears said at least one water release hole in the tube said water is jetted out of the water release holes into the animal's mouth, thereby compelling the animal to swallow the pill/capsule.

20 2. The pill and capsule delivery device according to claim 1 wherein said dispensing head is a split rubber tip attached to the distal end of the tube.

3. The pill and capsule delivery device according to claim 2 wherein said split rubber tip comprises a pair of resilient rubber jaws which releasably hold said pill or capsule.

5        4.        The pill and capsule delivery device according to claim 1 wherein said tube comprises a plurality of water release holes radially-spaced about a distal end of the tube proximate said dispensing head.

10       5.        The pill and capsule delivery device according to claim 1 wherein said piston and push rod are urged forward by water pressure built by operation of said plunger.

6.        The pill and capsule delivery device according to claim 1 wherein said main barrel is filled with water by removal of the plunger therefrom.

15       7.        The pill and capsule delivery device according to claim 1 wherein at least one air pressure release hole is formed through said main barrel along its length to allow air to escape from the main barrel before dispensing water.

20       8.        The pill and capsule delivery device according to claim 1, further comprising a deflector partially enclosing the water release holes to direct the water into the back of the mouth and to prevent splashing.

5        9.        A pill or capsule delivery device for ejecting a pill or capsule into an animal's mouth while at the same time injecting a quantity of water into the mouth, comprising:

             a dispensing head for releasably holding a pill or capsule; and

             a syringe component including a main barrel for containing a dose of water, a thumb-operable plunger insertable into one end of said main barrel for ejecting said water, a tube in fluid communication  
10        with the other end of said main barrel and defined by at least one water release hole, and a push-rod engaged by said plunger and movable therewith to protrude into said dispensing head;

             whereupon thumb-operation of the plunger, said plunger urges the push-rod forward such that said push-rod ejects the pill/capsule from the dispensing head into the animal's mouth, and water is simultaneously jetted out of the water release holes into the animal's mouth, thereby compelling the  
15        animal to swallow the pill/capsule.

10.        The pill and capsule delivery device according to claim 9 wherein said dispensing head is a split rubber tip attached to the distal end of the tube.

20        11.        The pill and capsule delivery device according to claim 10 wherein said split rubber tip comprises a pair of resilient rubber jaws which releasably hold said pill or capsule.

5        12.        The pill and capsule delivery device according to claim 9 wherein said tube comprises a plurality of water release holes radially-spaced about a distal end of the tube proximate said dispensing head.

10       13.        The pill and capsule delivery device according to claim 9 wherein push rod is urged forward by water pressure built by operation of said plunger.

14.        The pill and capsule delivery device according to claim 9 wherein push rod is urged forward by direct engagement with said plunger.

15       15.        The pill and capsule delivery device according to claim 9 wherein said main barrel is filled with water by removal of the plunger therefrom.

16.        The pill and capsule delivery device according to claim 9 wherein at least one air pressure release hole is formed through said main barrel along its length to allow air to escape from the main barrel before dispensing water.

20       17.        The pill and capsule delivery device according to claim 9, further comprising a deflector partially enclosing the water release holes to direct the water into the back of the mouth and to prevent splashing.

5        18.        A method of dispensing medication to an animal using an adapted syringe having a dispensing head for releasably holding a pill or capsule, a syringe component including a main barrel for containing a dose of water, a thumb-operable plunger insertable into one end of said main barrel for ejecting said water, a tube in fluid communication with the other end of said main barrel and defined by at least one water release hole, and a push-rod movable in conjunction with said plunger to protrude into said  
10        dispensing head, comprising the steps of:

             removing the thumb-operable plunger from the main barrel, filling the main barrel with water, and reinserting the thumb-operable plunger into the main barrel;

             inserting a pill or capsule into the dispensing head;

             inserting the dispensing head into an animal's mouth;

15        pushing said plunger to jet water and eject said pill or capsule into said animal's mouth, whereby said water stimulates peristalsis, lubricates the esophagus, and induces swallowing for proper injection of said pill or capsule.